



Resolution No. 2016R-233

City of Minneapolis

File No. 16-00771

**By Glidden, Yang, Reich, Gordon, Frey, B. Johnson, Warsame, Goodman,  
Cano, Bender, Quincy, A. Johnson and Palmisano**

**Honoring Steve Kotke for his Service and Dedication to the City of Minneapolis.**

Whereas, Steve Kotke, Director of Public Works and City Engineer, first entered employment in the Public Works Department in 1989 and worked as a paving engineer, Director of General Services (aka Property Services), and Deputy Director, Internal Services before his appointment by Mayor R.T. Rybak to lead the department in 2006; and

Whereas, Mr. Kotke carried out the significant duties and responsibilities of Public Works Director with the public's best interest always as his highest priority, balancing complex and competing interests with adept technical and political skill to find the best path forward for Minneapolis; and

Whereas, Mr. Kotke had the courage and fortitude to tackle challenges big and small, always striving to continuously improve, sorting out issues related to finances, regulations, infrastructure and development projects, organizational structure, staffing, and a wide array of other issues, all of which will continue to have significant positive impact on the City for many years to come; and

Whereas, Mr. Kotke expertly led the department through several catastrophic events including the 35W bridge collapse, multiple wind storms, two tornados, and a gas main explosion; and

Whereas, Mr. Kotke led the department through the 35W bridge rebuilding, reopening the Plymouth Avenue Bridge and the Sabo Bridge, Southwest LRT negotiations and Municipal Consent, the Blue and Green LRT lines, MARQ2, Crosstown Commons, 35W Transit Access, One Sort recycling, Organics roll out, facility plans, Complete Streets policy, protected bike lanes, and bike trails including the Cedar Lake Trail and Dinkytown Greenway; and

Whereas, Mr. Kotke served as a leader for the City on transportation funding, changes to project delivery methodology, managing LGA cuts, regional funding, Downtown Action Plan, Access Minneapolis, Green Fleet policy, building the Hiawatha LEED certified facility, as well as significant bridge projects including Northtown, Camden, Plymouth, 10th Avenue and Bridge 9; and

Whereas, Mr. Kotke expertly managed the City's largest department with 1,000 employees, a \$335 million operating budget and a \$110 million capital budget; and

Whereas, Mr. Kotke is bilingual and is renowned for his ability to translate Engineer-ese into English so elected officials, staff, and community stakeholders fully understand Public Works projects; and

Whereas, Mr. Kotke is widely respected by a broad array of partners and stakeholders and sought out for advice on issues well beyond the duties typically under the purview of a Public Works director; and

Whereas, Mr. Kotke will be deeply missed by the City's elected officials, department heads, staff, and fellow members of the Public Works Department as a leader, Professional Engineer, colleague, and friend;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the Mayor and City Council commend Steve Kotke for his dedication and exemplary service to the City of Minneapolis and expresses its deep gratitude and appreciation to him for his outstanding commitment to the City.

Be It Further Resolved that the Mayor and City Council congratulate Steve Kotke for his many significant accomplishments and wish him much happiness and fulfillment in all of his new ventures.

Committee: N/A Public Hearing: N/A Publication: JUN 04 2016

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE				
MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
REICH	X			
GORDON	X			
FREY	X			
B. JOHNSON	X			
YANG	X			
WARSAME	X			
GOODMAN	X			
GLIDDEN	X			
CANO	X			
BENDER	X			
QUINCY	X			
A. JOHNSON	X			
PALMISANO	X			
DATE:	MAY 27 2016			

☒ APPROVED ☐ VETOED

  
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MAYOR HODGES  
**MAY 31 2016**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Certified an official action of the City Council  
ATTEST:

  
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CITY CLERK

Presented to the Mayor:	MAY 27 2016	Received from the Mayor:	JUN 01 2016
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